

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 8th June 1889.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Kasipore Nibási" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Ahammadi" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
3	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....
4	"Divákar" ...	Ditto	.....
5	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah	.....
6	"Purva Bangabási" ...	Noakholly	.....
7	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan" ...	Calcutta	102	24th May 1889.
10	"Bangabási" ...	Ditto	20,000	1st June 1889.
11	"Burdwán Sanjibani" ...	Burdwan	302	28th May 1889.
12	"Chandra Vilásh" ...	Berhampore	250	
13	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	27th ditto.
14	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong	800	
15	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	1,200	2nd June 1889.
16	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	885	31st May 1889.
17	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur	.....
18	"Garib" ...	Dacca	3,000	
19	"Grambási" ...	Uluberia	800	
20	"Gaurab" ...	Ditto	.....
21	"Guru Charana" ...	Calcutta	.....
22	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	
23	"Jagatbási" ...	Calcutta	750	
24	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore	508	
25	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	350	
26	"Navavibhákar Sádharáni" ...	Calcutta	600	3rd June 1889.
27	"Prajá Bandhu" ...	Chandernagore	995	31st May 1889.
28	"Pratikár" ...	Berhampore	600	31st ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ...	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	
30	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	29th ditto.
31	"Samaya" ...	Ditto	3,806	31st ditto.
32	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	1st June 1889.
33	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	800	
34	"Santi" ...	Calcutta	3,722	29th May & 5th June 1889.
35	"Saráswat Patra" ...	Dacca	300	
36	"Som Prakásh" ...	Calcutta	1,000	3rd June 1889.
37	"Srimanta Saudagár" ...	Ditto	.....
38	"Sulabha Samáchar o Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	800	31st May 1889.
39	"Surabhi o Patáka" ...	Ditto	700	30th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik o Samachar Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	16th & 30th May & 2nd to 4th June '89.
41	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	800	25th, 27th, 30th, 31st May & 1st to 6th June 1889.
42	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	30th & 31st May & 1st to 6th June '89.
43	"Banga Vidyá Prakashika" ...	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	.....	3rd June 1889.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachar Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	20	
46	"Kshatriya Pratiká" ...	Patna ...	200	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Aryavarta" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	25th May 1889.
48	"Behar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	.....
49	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,653	23rd ditto.
50	"Sár Sudhánidhi" ...	Ditto ...	500	27th ditto.
51	"Uchit Baktá" ...	Ditto ...	4,500	
52	"Hindi Samachar" ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jám-Jahán-numá," ...	Calcutta ...	250	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Aftal Alum Arrah" ...	Arrah ...	300	
55	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
56	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....
57	"Gauhur" ...	Calcutta ...	196	
58	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ...	Behar ...	150	
59	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	.....	27th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
60	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat" ...	Calcutta ...	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
61	"Urdu Guide" ...	Calcutta ...	212	
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
62	"Asha" ...	Cuttack ...	.....
63	"Taraka and Subhavartá" ...	Ditto ...	.....
64	"Pradip" ...	Ditto ...	.....
65	"Samyabadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Dipaka" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	11th & 18th May 1889.
67	"Utkal Dípiká" ...	Ditto ...	444	4th, 11th & 15th May 1889.
68	"Balasore Samvad Váhika" ...	Balasore ...	206	18th May 1889.
69	"Urya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	600	15th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
70	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
71	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet ...	450	27th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 28th May, refers to the Amir of Afghanistan's demand for a larger subsidy than is annually paid to him, and remarks as follows:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 28th, 1889.

The knowledge that his assistance is considered indispensable by Government in holding India against a Russian invasion has increased the self-importance of the Amir of Afghanistan, and the Amir has therefore asked for a larger subsidy. But how long will this friendship with the Amir last? Is it an easy thing to keep up a friendship which is purchased with money? What will Government do when the Amir will ask for 40 lakhs? It is therefore desirable for Government to enter into a permanent arrangement with the Amir, and if the Amir refuses to enter into such an arrangement, Government should devise other means of defending India than bribing him.

2. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st June, says that the Sikkim war has been raging for more than a year. The war was made because Tibetan troops had entered

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1889.

Sikkim. But now that Tibetan troops have departed from Sikkim, there is no plea or justification whatever for keeping or stationing English troops there any longer. It is rather the English Government which is now guilty of trespassing, for it has occupied the Chumbi valley, which is situated within the jurisdiction of Tibet. Let Government, for the sake of justice and poor India, desist from prosecuting the war. Money should not be wasted in this way. Much money is needed for railways and canals, for the improvement of the health of the country and for the spread of education.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 28th May, says that Nutanaganj being one of the trade centres in the town of Burdwan, the streets there are often crowded by carts. These carts remain waiting near the shops on the roadside, while the shopkeepers load and unload them. The roads there being sufficiently broad, no inconvenience is caused to the general public by this cart traffic. The police constables, however, challan these carts on the plea of causing obstruction on the public road, and thereby put the shopkeepers to great loss and inconvenience. The Magistrate of Burdwan is asked to enquire into the matter.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 28th, 1889.

4. The same paper refers to a recent case of dacoity at Ajhapur, within the jurisdiction of the Jamalpur thana in the district of Burdwan (see Report on Native Papers for week ending 1st June 1889, paragraph 4), and says that it is the second case of dacoity within the jurisdiction of that thana in the course of a month. What is the police doing? Will not the Magistrate of Burdwan take steps to put an end to this state of things? The writer has learnt that certain dacoits of the old thuggee days have returned home after having served out the sentence of transportation passed on them, and are now living in a village near Ajhapur. The police ought to keep a strict eye over these men, and to ascertain whether they have any connection with the recent dacoities. Cases of dacoity are being reported from various places. Government should ask the police to be on the alert.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

5. The *Sulabh Samáchr o Kushdaha*, of the 31st May, takes the following from the *Hindu Ranjika*:—"A herd of cattle which was being driven by

SULABH SAMACHA
O KUSHDAHA,
May 31st, 1889.

Baboo Gopalhari Mullick, a Police Superintendent.

three cowherd boys fell in the way of the Police Superintendent, Baboo Gopalhari Mullick, who was driving in a carriage at the time. The Baboo gave orders for the impounding of the cows, and the poor boys had to get back the cows by paying a fine of six rupees. They had to borrow this sum at a monthly interest of one anna per rupee. It is said that on their entreating the constables to let the cows go, they were beaten by them. This conduct on the part of Babu Gopalhari is much to be regretted. If a high native officer like him can show such harshness towards three native boys, better conduct cannot be expected of fickle-minded Anglo-Indian officers. Do public roads exist for the use of Police Superintendents alone, or for the general public and their animals?

SAMAYA,
May 31st, 1889.

6. The *Samaya*, of the 31st May, is at a loss to see why Government has latterly become so distrustful of the people. Last year it issued a secret circular,

A new police circular.

requiring the movements of the people to be watched, and now it has issued a new circular directing police officers to keep an eye upon the movements of Sannyasis, Yogis, Sadhus, Fakeers and such-like men. Government probably thinks that these mendicant people go about preaching sedition to the people, under the garb of religion. What has led Government to think in this way, it is not easy to say. Can it be due to the constant harping on the subject of Maharaja Dhulip Singh's defection?

BANGABASI,
June 1st, 1889.

7. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 1st June, says that a woman recently died of thunder-stroke at Berugram in Burdwan. Information of the occurrence was sent to the police immediately after her death, but the police did not come till noon of the following day. The Hindu alone understands how painful it is for him to keep a dead body unburnt till the day following that on which death takes place.

A police investigation in the district of Burdwan.

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 28th, 1889.

8. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 28th May, says that a case, in which the widow of the late Baboo Bholanath Singh of Chukdighi and the widow of his grandson are plaintiffs, and Baboo Kalidasa Mukerji, one of the executors of the estate of the late Baboo Bholanath Singh and others, are defendants, has been for sometime pending in the Court of Baboo Nogendra Nath Ghose, Deputy Magistrate of Burdwan.

Baboo Nogendra Nath Ghose,
Deputy Magistrate of Burdwan.

The Deputy Magistrate is an M.A. of the Calcutta University, and almost a boy in years. Baboo Lalit Mohan Singh Roy, a respectable talukdar of Chukdighi, was cited as a witness in the case by the plaintiffs. Baboo Nogendra Nath Ghose accordingly summoned Lalit Baboo to appear in his Court. Lalit Baboo appeared by Mukhtears and filed an application, backed by a medical certificate, stating that as he was suffering from a head disease, he prayed to be excused from attending Court. Nogendra Baboo rejected the medical certificate, although it was given by an M.B. of the Medical College. He probably thought that the mere fact of a man's graduating in the Calcutta University was no guarantee for honesty and good behaviour, and that it was the easiest thing for an M.B. to give false certificates. He accordingly ordered that Lalit Baboo's application could not be entertained until it was supported by a certificate by the Civil Surgeon of Burdwan.

Now there was at the time no Civil Surgeon in Burdwan, Mr. O'Brien having been transferred, and no one else having taken his place. The medical charge of the district was therefore in the hands of Baboo Kali Prasanna Chaudhuri. Lalit Baboo therefore filed a certificate given by Baboo Kali Prasanna. On the receipt of this certificate, the Deputy Magistrate summoned Kali Prasanna Baboo to his Court, and had him

examined on oath. Baboo Kali Prasanna stated that Lalit Baboo was really suffering from headache, and was really unable to attend Court.

The Deputy Magistrate kept himself quiet for two days after this, and on the third day issued a warrant for the arrest of Lalit Baboo, whereupon lots of policemen surrounded Lalit Baboo's house. There was confusion in the house of Lalit Baboo who immediately sent for the Pleader, Baboo Tara Prasanna Mukerji.

The Pleader made his way through the phalanx of policemen and entering into the house of Lalit Baboo, gave him up into the hands of the police. The arresting officer must have been an unusually kind-hearted man, for he did not handcuff Lalit Baboo, and took him to Court in a gharry at the request of the Pleader. The Deputy Magistrate had left Court when Lalit Baboo was brought in. The arresting officer was a kind-hearted man, and instead of sending Lalit Baboo to *hajat*, took him to the house of the Deputy Magistrate. The latter had then the satisfaction to see that there was nothing in this world, neither honour, nor respectability, nor riches, which could be set against his order. He softened down at the contemplation of the greatness of his own power. He could have, if he had been only so inclined, ordered Lalit Baboo to be handcuffed and taken to *hajat* through the public road. But he did nothing of the kind, and showed that there was true greatness in him by consenting to release Lalit Baboo on bail for Rs. 5,000. A respectable Mukhtear offered to stand security for Lalit Baboo. But it would surely have been wrong to allow a common Mukhtear to stand security in a case in which the offender was guilty of a most heinous offence, that is, the offence of refusing to attend Court on the ground of ill-health.

Fortunately Lalit Baboo had brought with him Government securities worth Rs. 5,000. These he endorsed over to the Deputy Magistrate, who ordered his release.

The writer is neither sorry for Lalit Baboo, nor angry with the Deputy Magistrate. He only feels the ridiculousness of an insignificant member of a down-trodden race, intoxicated with the little magisterial power conferred upon him by the liberality of a foreign Government, comparing himself in the balance with the wealth and pedigree of his country and appraising himself far above the latter.

9. The *Surabhi o Patáká*, of the 30th May, makes the following observations on the Gocharan case in the 24-Pergunnahs district:—

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
May 30th, 1889.

The Gocharan case in the 24-Pergunnahs district.

It is almost superfluous to say that the decision of the Appellate Court in this case has been grossly unjust. Though the offence committed by Lieutenant Francis and his sepoy was a hundred times more serious than that committed by the villagers, still the latter alone have been punished, while the former have escaped even without a scratch. Mr. Francis has himself admitted that he went into the village at night with his sepoy and beat the villagers. And yet these villagers have been punished for defending themselves, while those who beat them are going about with their heads erect. Is justice to be found under the British rule?

10. The *Dainik o Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 2nd June, says that the whole country has become clamorous and indignant, because Mr. Phillips, the

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 2nd, 1889.

A Native Deputy Magistrate.

English Magistrate of Rajshahye, has done a few wrong things. But Baboo Nogendra Nath Ghose, Deputy Magistrate of Burdwan, and an M.A. of the Calcutta University, has now done a worse thing than any that has been done by Mr. Phillips, and yet there is not a word anywhere against the Baboo. This is not right. The country should condemn all alike, European or Native.

(c)—Jails.

SAHACHAR,
May 29th, 1889.

11. The *Sahachar*, of the 29th May, supports the proposal made by a European lady, in her letter on the subject of jail reform, published in the *Statesman*

newspaper, that in consideration of the abuse of power which it leads to, the practice of investing Jail Superintendents with magisterial powers within the jails should be abolished. As the hands of the District Magistrates are always full, they cannot be fairly asked to exercise those powers. Thus the only course open seems to be to entrust those powers to the visitors of jails. It may be said that, even now, prisoners can appeal to the Inspector-General and to the jail visitors against unjust punishments inflicted upon them by order of the Jail Superintendents, and that the existing system therefore calls for no change. But it should be borne in mind that, in the first place, few people are disposed to hear the complaints of prisoners in the jails, and in the second place, there is not the slightest chance of a prisoner's story being believed when it runs counter to the story told by a Jail Superintendent. The lady's proposal should therefore be given effect to. In conclusion, it is stated that of the three visitors who are to try prisoners for offences committed in jails, one at least should be a Magistrate.

(d)—Education.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 28th, 1889.

12. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 28th May, has learnt from a reliable source that the Examiners of the last Entrance Examination

had to re-examine their papers for having passed 20 per cent. of the candidates! Does Government mean to close the door of high education by such means as this?

SANTI,
May 29th, 1889.

13. The *Santi*, of the 29th May, says that the University should make stringent rules to prevent students who fail in the test examination from appearing in the Entrance Examination, and that those schools whose heads send up such students to the examination, should be excluded from the University.

SAHACHAR,
May 29th, 1889.

14. The *Sahachar*, of the 29th May, in accounting for the large failure at the last Entrance Examination, makes the following observations:—

Schools in this country have now come to be regarded as sources of profit, and their number has consequently multiplied largely of late years. There are now in the city and its suburbs many schools which exist solely for the purpose of bringing money into the pockets of their proprietors. These schools may be compared to the temporary cloth-shops which are opened every year in the city shortly before the celebration of the Doorga-Pooja festival.

Instead of students seeking admission into the schools, the case is now one of students sought after. Consequently the student's sense of self-importance has enormously increased, and he has become disobedient to his teachers. These students also know that if they can pass an examination of the Calcutta University their value in the marriage market will rise, and their parents will get large sums by marrying them. They thus look upon themselves as mines of gold, and slight their parents. Fit or unfit, prepared or unprepared, they must appear at the examination. And there are head-masters of schools who are ready to grant them certificates of fitness on receiving a trifling sum, say Rs. 25. It is no wonder, therefore, that there should be so much failure at the Entrance Examination. It behoves the authorities to take steps to prevent unfit students from coming up to the examination.

It seems that things are managed better in the mofussil schools, where the certificate of fitness is granted after much consideration.

The next question is, do the examiners do their duty properly? Is it possible for them to examine from six to seven thousand papers within so short a time? The writer is opposed to the appointment of teachers as examiners, as well as to the appointment of the same set of examiners year after year. The examiners should be selected from outside the Education Department. The practice of appointing examiners on the strength of recommendations, and not with reference to their ability, should be abolished.

15. The same paper cannot admit the truth of the statement made by a correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patriká*, that under the grade system justice is not being done to all the officers of the Education Department; for there is no instance of any injustice done to any educational officer under that system. It is said that those officers who show any special ability or fitness become the favourites of their superiors. But this happens not only in the Education Department, but in all public departments, and good rather than evil results from it. It seems that the correspondent of the *Amrita Bazar Patriká* is one of those men who, as the Bengali proverb says, "hate work, eat much, and offend people by their speech."

Grade system in the Education Department.

SAHACHAR,
May 29th, 1889.

16. The *Sulabh Samáchar o Kushdaha*, of the 31st May, says that reports of carelessness on the part of the examiners in the last University examinations have been circulated all over the country. Examiners should be very carefully selected. The men who, though once eminent for their scholarship, have left off the study of the subjects prescribed by the University, and the men who do not command the respect and confidence of the teachers and examinees as conscientious men, and men who are too old to work hard should not be appointed as examiners.

The last examination of the Calcutta University.

SULABH SAMACHAR O
KUSHDAHA,
May 31st, 1889.

17. The *Samaya*, of the 31st May, says that the authorities of the Calcutta University ought to permit the candidates who have passed the Entrance Examination of the Allahabad University to appear at the First Arts and other higher examinations of this University. Large numbers of Bengalis now reside in the North-Western Provinces, and their sons, who are often desirous of giving themselves a Calcutta University education, will have no difficulty in doing so if this permission is granted. Besides, it is most improper that there should be any distinction between the two Universities when they are under the same Government. The permission will benefit the students and will injure no one.

The Universities of Calcutta and Allahabad.

SAMAYA,
May 31st, 1889.

18. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st June, says that it is its observation of the attitude of indifference of the Syndicate that compels it to expose, though reluctantly, the gross negligence displayed by Messrs. Hoernle and Rowe in examining the answer papers in the last B.A. Examination. These two gentlemen sent in marks without having examined some answer papers. If the then Registrar, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Raya, had not made careful enquiries into the matter, some candidates would have been undeservedly plucked. But the Syndicate has again appointed these men as examiners. If the Senate had been composed of men of courage and conscience instead of titled men, as it mostly is, it would certainly have protested against this action of the Syndicate. Men employed in educational work are seldom appointed as members of the Syndicate. Nameless men are often appointed as members of the Senate, whilst the Professors of the private colleges in Calcutta are passed over. The Syndicate did well the other year in not re-appointing as examiners some native gentlemen who had

Messrs. Rowe and Hoernle as examiners in the last B. A. Examination.

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1889.

carelessly examined answer papers. But Messrs. Rowe and Hoernle have been guilty of greater carelessness than that. The display of such partiality by the Syndicate is really a shameful spectacle. Fie upon the Syndicate!

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1889.

19. The same paper says that the system of examination advocated by Professor Knight in England should be adopted by the Calcutta University. Professor Knight recommends that in order to prevent an inexperienced examiner from setting questions altogether wide of the teaching given to the examinees, the teaching Professors may be associated with extramural examiners and both these classes of examiners may be held jointly responsible for the questions set and the verdicts given. There will be no difficulty in adopting this system in the Medical and Engineering Examinations of the Calcutta University, but there will be some difficulty in adopting it in the general examinations. But that difficulty may be easily overcome by arranging for the submission by the examiners of the answer papers of each College in the First Arts and B. A. Examinations to its Principal, and, in the case of the Entrance Examination, for the submission of the answer papers of the plucked candidates to a Board selected by the schools, and, if the Head Master of a school so chooses, to the Head Master himself.

Reform of the examination system
of the Calcutta University.

The following remarks of Professor Knight regarding the management of examinations are also very good:—

“If the examiner invariably sets more questions than it is allowable to attempt to answer, so as to give an option to the candidate in selecting those he prefers; if he takes care that some of his questions are a test of originality and insight, while others test learning and range of knowledge, and if, in his appraising of the papers, he gives full value to every kind of ability shown, but least to the display of superficial feats of memory, a substantial reform would be effected.”

Again—“A further reform would consist in allowing the examinees, in most cases, to advance by easy stages, to let them pass in one subject at a time, and let it count towards the final result without necessitating a simultaneous passing in other subjects.”

SOM PRAKASH,
June 3rd, 1889.

20. The *Som Prakash*, of the 3rd June, is at a loss to see the reasons which led Sir Alfred Croft, Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, to frame his new rule under which no boy of 14 years of age will be admitted into any class below the fourth (?) in the district and collegiate schools. Will this rule come into operation in the collegiate schools in Calcutta? As boys in this country now pass the Entrance Examination at 17 or 18 years of age, the imposition of the above age-limit, which will have the effect of compelling boys to appear at the Entrance Examination just at 17 years of age, is an act of sheer wilfulness. It is hoped that Sir Alfred will reconsider the matter.

Sir Alfred Croft's 14 years' rule.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

CHARUVARTA,
May 27th, 1889.

21. A correspondent of the *Charu Vartá*, of the 27th May, complains that bulls and hackney carriage horses are allowed to roam at large within the Mymensingh Municipality. Some of these bulls are very ferocious. The hackney carriage horses commit great damage by trespassing into people's houses and fields. The Municipality also propose to deposit refuse within the limits of the town under a thin covering of earth. This arrangement will be very injurious to the town. If the Municipality has not a sufficient number of men, it should increase its staff, but it should by no means adopt the course here described with regard to the deposit of refuse.

The Mymensingh Municipality.

22. The *Sahachar*, of the 29th May, says that the construction of the proposed road from the Howrah Bridge to the Sealdah Station is about to be taken in hand, and orders for acquiring land for the purpose

SAHACHAR,
May 29th, 1889.

Acquisition of land for the new road
in Calcutta.

have already been issued in the official Gazette. A great many people will now have to leave their ancestral dwelling-houses. And in the case of Hindus this will mean a rude shock to their proverbial attachment for their family dwelling-houses. Sir Henry Harrison should therefore see that the persons whose lands will be taken for the road are paid proper prices for such lands. The Kidderpore land acquisition proceedings naturally give rise to the apprehension that the acquisition of land for the new road may be characterised by similar injustice. It is hoped that the duty of acquiring land in this instance will devolve on a fit person.

23. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st June, says that there is an impression in the public mind that posts in the office of the Calcutta Municipality are the monopoly of the friends and relatives of the Commissioners, and

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1889.

Favouritism in the Calcutta Municipality.

it is this which makes the remedy of oppressions committed by the Municipal officers impossible. An enquiry should be made into the truth of this allegation.

One Abinash Chandra Mallik, a fruit-seller in the Calcutta Municipal Market, brought some serious charges against Mr. Jones, the Superintendent of the market. The Market Committee was directed to enquire into the truth of these charges. The Committee has passed the order that Abinash Chandra should no longer be allowed to keep his shop in the market. Abinash Chandra complained to the Chairman that the Committee had not examined the witnesses produced by him, and requested that his case might be put before the Municipal Committee. But the Chairman has declined to take any action in the matter. The writer cannot understand why the Chairman should decline to do so.

24. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 3rd June, has heard various allegations against the tax-darogah of the Brahmanberiah Municipality. The writer is not inclined to believe that such things as the darogah is accused of can take place in these days of self-government. It is said that the Municipal Commissioners have been unable to take a proper notice of the matter from a sense of delicacy. This, if true, is disgraceful to the Commissioners. If the Commissioners try to hush up the matter, the writer will lay the whole secret before the authorities.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 3rd, 1889.

The Brahmanberiah Municipality.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

25. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 3rd June, says that the people of Inatpur, a village situated at a distance of two miles from the Mugrahat railway station, have been subjected to great inconvenience in consequence of the excavation by some Mahomedans of a khal which used to be closed by means of an embankment during this time of the year. The salt water of the khal has inundated the surrounding villages, and agricultural operations have become impossible there. A fever epidemic is also expected from the effects of this inundation. The local Deputy Magistrate is asked to look to the matter.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 3rd, 1889.

A canal at Inatpur, near the Mugrahat railway station, district 24-Per-gunnahs.

26. A correspondent of the *Dacca Gazette*, of the 3rd June, complains that a culvert near Tanjibari and Sonaranga in Bikrampore, district Dacca, has been in a dilapidated state for full two years.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 3rd, 1889.

A broken culvert in Bikrampore.

(h)—General.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
May 27th, 1889.

27. The *Sar Sádhanidhi*, of the 27th May, says that India cannot look for justice even from such a large assembly as Parliament. Even Parliament can completely sacrifice the interests of India for a paltry gain to England.

CHARUVARTA,
May 27th, 1889.

28. A correspondent of the *Cháru Vártá*, of the 27th May, says that Digpait is an important village. It contains a charitable dispensary, a Sanskrit *Tol*, and loan offices and other places of business. There are also many rich men in the village. But there is no post-office in the village, and this is a source of great inconvenience to the villagers. The villagers have repeatedly applied to the authorities for the establishment of a post-office in the village, but to no purpose. If a post-office in the village causes loss to Government, the villagers are prepared to make it good. Still the postal authorities pay no heed to their prayer.

SANTI,
May 29th, 1889.

29. The *Sánti*, of the 29th May, referring to the proposed system of filling up vacancies in the Bengal Secretariat according to the results of competitive examination, remarks that the providing of special facilities to Eurasians and Mussulmans may excite jealousy, but it is cowardly to envy another his good fortune. Again, a father, it is well known, loves his blind or deaf or otherwise incapable child more than his other children. This is no political matter that a strong agitation should be made about it. A slave has no right to claim or look for justice. Where a man is to earn his bread by slavery, he should learn to be a good slave. That 20 or 25 years' service enables a man to become well acquainted with the routine work of an office, is not a very forcible argument. A properly educated outsider can easily learn any work. If Government makes no distinction between educated and uneducated men, the cause of high education will be injured—a result which will be as disgraceful to Government as it will be injurious to the nation.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
May 30th, 1889.

30. The *Surabhi-o-Patáká*, of the 30th May, says that, according to the *Indian Mirror* newspaper, Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter will shortly join his post in the High Court. If this statement be correct, then the rumour that Mr. Amir Ali will be appointed to a Judgeship of the High Court must be false. But according to other papers, it has been already settled that Mr. Amir Ali will be elevated to the Bench of the High Court. Now the question is, is Mr. Amir Ali fit for a Judgeship of the High Court? And the fact that Lord Dufferin did not appoint him to the High Court, notwithstanding the recommendation of the Chief Justice and the Government of Bengal, shows that he is not fit. Under these circumstances, the present Government will earn a bad name if it allows its decision in the matter to be influenced, not by considerations of merit, but by those of nationality.

SURABHI-O-PATAKA.

31. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has recently created a new post—that of an Excise Commissioner, carrying a salary rising from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 3,000 per month. Besides the pay of the post, the maintenance of an establishment of clerks and assistants, which the creation of the post will involve, will cost Government a large sum of money every year. It is not easy to see what the duties of the new officer will be, or what the necessity was for creating the office. Government, which cannot for want of funds spend a single pice in relieving the distress of its subjects, never complains of lack of funds when it has to spend money recklessly for the purpose of providing for its own countrymen.

32. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 31st May, says that hitherto the salary of the head of the Forest Department was Rs. 1,700 rising to Rs. 2,000 per month. But now, by order of the Secretary of State for India, his salary has been increased to Rs. 2,000 rising to Rs. 2,500 per month. When asked to increase the salaries of its under-paid and hard-worked clerks, Government invariably takes the plea of shortness of funds, but it is remarkably open-handed in providing for its own countrymen.

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 31st, 1889.

33. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 1st June, asks Lord Lansdowne to say whether it will not be proper to enquire into the truth of the allegations regarding the perpetration of horrid cruelties in Burma, contained in the letter of the Burmese correspondent of the *Indian Daily News*. Things like those of which the correspondent complains, do not look well in British territory.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
June 1st, 1889.

34. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st June, says that one of these three men, namely, Sir Charles Aitchison, Sir Rivers Thompson, and General Chesney will succeed Colonel Yule in the India Council. But Indians will be glad if Sir Charles Aitchison is appointed to the office.

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1889.

35. The *Navavibhākar Sādhāranī*, of the 3rd June, referring to the rumour that differences have arisen between the Secretary of State and Lord Reay, and that the Secretary of State intends recalling the latter, says that so liberal minded a Governor as Lord Reay never came to Bombay, and that Indians will be more sorry at the untimely departure of Lord Reay from this country than at the resignation of a thousand Lord Crosses.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
June 3rd, 1889.

36. The *Dainik-o-Samāchār Chandrikā*, of the 3rd June, says that the cruelties practised by the English troops in Burma are of a nature to rend the heart. The Burmese correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* is boldly accusing even the Chief Commissioner of complicity in those cruelties. One may disbelieve the report of the cruelties which are said to have been practised by the colleagues of General Roberts in Afghanistan. But how can one disbelieve these reports about the perpetration of cruelties in Burma when it is Englishmen themselves that are proclaiming these things?

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 3rd, 1889.

What the writer predicted long ago is now being witnessed. One crime leads to another, and when a man crosses the portals of hell, he must be prepared to traverse its whole length.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

37. The *Samaya*, of the 31st May, says that now that it has been settled that a factory law should be framed for India, it will be the duty of Lord Lansdowne to declare publicly, when the law is passed, that the law is one which the people of India do not wish to have, and that its object is to deprive the owners of Indian factories of the advantages which they have hitherto enjoyed in their competition with the merchants of Manchester.

SAMAYA,
May 31st, 1889.

38. The *Bangabāsi*, of the 1st June, is alarmed to hear that a Bill for the better management of *Devottar* and *Pirottar* property will be soon introduced into the Viceregal Council. The writer will pass no opinion on the subject until he sees the Bill.

BANGABASI,
June 1st, 1889.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

PRATIKAR,
May 31st, 1889.

39. The *Pratikár*, of the 31st May, says that it is a characteristic trait of the English Government that, however harsh and cruel its conduct may be, it never abandons its outward mask of gentleness and liberality. This was seen at the time when it conquered Upper Burma.

Cashmere.
Lest the annexation of Burma should make the native princes of India apprehensive about the safety of their own States, Government, at that time, gave them distinctly to understand that Burma was being annexed for special reasons, and that they had nothing to fear from that annexation. This happened not long ago: and within the short space of time that has since elapsed Government has annexed Cashmere. The English of course say that Cashmere has not been annexed; that Cashmere is still under the rule of the Maharaja, but that it will henceforward be governed by a Council of Regency. That there is not a farthing of truth in this statement will appear from Colonel Nisbet's letter to Prince Amarsingh, Prime Minister of Cashmere. A translation of that letter is given and the following remarks are made. A perusal of this letter will show the amount of truth there is in the statement that Cashmere will be under the rule of a State Council and that the Maharaja will still continue to be its head. And the people of this country must, like so many idiots, place unquestioning faith in this statement, or they will be denounced as being ungrateful and disloyal.

The writer is unable to see wherein the arrangements made for the Government of Cashmere differ from an open declaration like this—"We have taken the administration of Cashmere into our own hands." Government has selected three men for the Council of Regency. Of these three, one began service on fifteen rupees and gradually came to draw five hundred rupees per month. This man has a most superficial acquaintance with the English language, and he will now receive a salary of Rs. 1,500 per month. Another man began service on rupees ten and gradually rose to rupees six hundred per month. This man will now get Rs. 1,500 per month. The third man is a Mahomedan. The selections have been of a capital order indeed!

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 31st, 1889.

40. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 31st May, has the following on Cashmere affairs:—

The English in Cashmere.

Things are daily taking a serious turn in Cashmere. The readers of this paper are aware that the English have effected the ruin of Cashmere. The Maharaja is now a ruler only in name, while the English have become all in all. These things will be clear from Colonel Nisbet's letter to Prince Amar Singh, of which a Bengali translation is next given. It seems that the Resident has now become the real ruler of Cashmere. So the English have virtually, if not formally, annexed Cashmere; and this virtual annexation has struck terror into the hearts of the people of that State. Heaven alone can say what all this will culminate in!

It seems that the English are afraid of their own doings in Cashmere, for they are now banishing from the State all its principal personages. Janki Prasad, Dewan Amar Nath, Dr. Surajbal, Pundit Mahanund have been compelled to leave Cashmere. It is superfluous to say that all these personages were friends of the Maharaja.

The question now is, will all this have the effect of putting out the fire that is smouldering in that State? The writer is afraid lest the fatuity of Englishmen should again place them in jeopardy.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 3rd, 1889.

41. The *Som Prakash*, of the 3rd June, is of opinion that it is the British Residents who are mainly responsible for the misgovernment and confusion prevailing in the Native States of India. Directly a

Residents in the Courts of the Native Princes of India.

Resident comes into a Native Court, the fate of that State is sealed. Look at the condition of Cashmere. Its former glory has well nigh disappeared under the rule of the Residents. It was to these Residents that the dethronement of Mulhar Rao and the disgrace of the late Sir Salar Jung were owing. Reference is then made to the misgovernment in the Orissa Tributary States: under the beneficent rule of the Residents three out of 15 of these States have been annexed, and there is no doubt that sooner or later the rest will share the same fate. All this is owing to the fact that as Residents are recruited from the ranks of the Civil Service, and as the members of that service principally come from obscure and unknown families in England, there are few men of honour and respectability amongst them. By reason of their low birth and imperfect breeding they are unfit to deal with Rajas and Princes. Their first thought on coming to a Native Court is to increase their own power and influence and further the interests of the British Government. It is for these reasons that the Resident system has proved a failure.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

42. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 23rd May, says that there is distress in Diamond Harbour and that people are dying there of starvation. Sir Steuart Bayley's Government is anxious to promote the welfare of the people, and yet distress at a place so near the metropolis has not roused it from its sleep. It is highly unjust to spend famine fund money on wars in a country which is visited by famine every year.

BHARAT MITRA,
May 23rd, 1889.

Mr. Bolton on the distress in the Diamond Harbour Sub-division.

43. The *Sahachar*, of the 29th May, does not understand what Mr. Bolton, Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, who recently paid a visit to the Diamond Harbour Sub-division, means by saying that there is only some distress and no famine in that part of the district. According to Englishmen there is no famine so long as there is no actual loss of life, and that is the reason why a great many people die from famine in this country.

SAHACHAR,
May 29th, 1889.

Mr. Bolton and the distress in the Diamond Harbour Sub-division.

44. The *Prajā Bandhu*, of the 31st May, says that, according to Mr. Bolton, distress in the Diamond Harbour Sub-division is not such as to call for prompt institution of relief measures. This opinion of Mr. Bolton's is the reverse of that arrived at on the subject by this and other native papers. But the editors of these papers are black natives and must be, therefore, liars; whereas Mr. Bolton cannot possibly tell an untruth. What then becomes of the news that Nanda, a barber, has died of starvation? Did Mr. Bolton enquire into that man's case?

PRAJA BANDU,
May 31st, 1889.

The writer has learnt from a reliable source that Mr. Bolton's report is based upon an insufficient enquiry. But Mr. Bolton is a Civilian, and what he says is gospel truth. The following list is annexed to show that people in the Diamond Harbour Sub-division have already begun to die from starvation:—

Age of the person dead.	Name of the person in whose house the death has occurred.	Residence Khas mehal.
3	Jivan Haldar ...	Narayanpore.
4	Abhaya Haldar ...	ditto.
3	Mathura Paik ...	ditto.
4	Rasik Haldar ...	Chandipore.
45	Mathura Sardar ...	ditto.

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1889.

45. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st June, is afraid that Mr. Bolton has not visited those places where scarcity really exists, and which are out-of-the-way places, having no rivers flowing near them or good communication of other kinds. Such places are not likely to be favoured with official visits. There is no distress in the head-quarters of the sub-division and the adjacent places. It is hoped that Government will grant relief according to the recommendations of the Majilpore Jaynagar Committee. The people too have a grave duty to perform in this connection. They ought to help their distressed countrymen in the manner proposed by Messrs. Peach and Blackesley.

Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division.

BANGABASI,
June 1st, 1889.

46. The *Bangabasi*, of the 1st June, publishes the following facts relating to the distress in Behar, received from a correspondent writing from Matihari:—

Distress in Behar.

In the Behar famine of the Bengali year 1281, Government afforded relief to the people by constructing roads and excavating tanks. But the distress of this year is worse than that of the Bengali year 1281. In 1281 rice sold at 13 seers per rupee. This year rice is selling at nine seers per rupee—*makai* at 14 seers per rupee, *rahari* at 17 or 18 seers per rupee, gram and wheat at 14 seers per rupee, and oats at 18 seers per rupee. These grains, again, are not procurable at many places. Plenty of *alua*, *sukhni*, cucumber, and mango grew in 1281. But these have not grown well this year. Last year *alua* and *sukhni* sold at eight or 10 seers per pice. This year they are selling at not more than two seers per rupee. There has not been more than a six-anna portion of the *Bhadui* crop, and there has not been more than a four-anna portion of the paddy crop. The crops sown in February last have not grown for want of rain. People are living on lotus stems and on the fruits of the Pipul, Banyan and fig trees. These fruits are selling in the market at two seers per pice. The labourers in that part of the country obtain daily wages of one anna to two annas, and it is impossible for a labourer who has four or five dependents to maintain them with that amount. Thefts and dacoities are rife, and people cannot sleep in security.

BANGABASI.

47. The same paper publishes the following letter on the subject of Mr. Bolton's visit of inspection to Diamond Harbour:—

Mr. Bolton in Diamond Harbour.

In the first place, Mr. Bolton spent the greatest portion of the time he remained in the Diamond Harbour sub-division in Diamond Harbour town itself, where the distress is not great and where a large number of men are working in the new fort. He did not also question any respectable people on the subject of the distress. He went along the Howrah road to Bishunpore. A large number of people are working on that road. Hence the Magistrate concluded that all the distressed people of the part were obtaining relief there. The distress is greatest in the Mathurapore and Kulpi thanas, and in certain portions of the Bankipore thana. Of these places he saw only Bankipore. Mr. Bolton did not visit those places where people are dying by reason of their eating loathsome food on account of the pangs of hunger, and where people are to be found who have had no food for two or three days together. When at Bishunpore, about 200 ryots went to his bungalow to communicate to him their tale of distress, but he ordered his chuprasi to drive them away. His inspection ended at Bishunpore, for he returned from that place through some important villages where there is no distress. He arrived at Mugrahat on the *hât* day, and therefore saw a large quantity of corn, rice, &c., at the *hât*, and therefore concluded that there was not much distress. A friend of the correspondent expressed a desire to take Mr. Bolton to several afflicted villages, but he refused to comply with that request.

So much for Mr. Bolton's inspection. It is now easy to guess what the nature of his report will be.

48. A correspondent of the same paper says that there is great distress at the village Bardron in the Diamond Harbour sub-division. About 10 or 12 families have been living on one meal for the last 18 or 19 days. Mr. Bolton did not visit the villages where there is real scarcity. He visited only those villages whose condition is not bad. He will therefore report that there is no scarcity, and that will be very advantageous to Government.

49. The *Dainik o Samachar Chandrika*, of the 3rd June, says that when even Anglo-Indian writers are speaking to the existence of scarcity in Orissa, how can the existence of scarcity in that province be denied? There is, in fact, much cause for anxiety. But there are few officers, native or European, who are really affected by the untimely death of natives. There is also distress in North Behar. There has been no rain in Behar. All sorts of food are selling everywhere at famine prices. There is yet time to remedy the evil. A little while more, and Behar will be ruined and the whole country will become a waste.

BANGABASI,
June 1st, 1889.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 3rd, 1889.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

50. The *Sahachar*, of the 29th May, has the following on Mr. Phillips, Magistrate of Rajshahye:—

Mr. Phillips.

Mr. Phillips, Magistrate of Rajshahye, was little known outside his district. And to gain notoriety, he began to attack the people of this country and their leaders. The Civilians are true well-wishers of this country, and people believe them (Civilians) to be their natural friends. By attacking the people, therefore, Mr. Phillips was the first to give the lie to this belief and to the instincts of his own class. Not satisfied with himself attacking the people, he induced other Civilians to imitate his example. Matters would have rested here had not the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* entered the lists with him and driven him into a corner. Like Sir William Draper, who attacked the author of the "Letters of Junius," Mr. Phillips, who is an author, a magistrate, a lawyer and a civilian at the same time, now finds to his dismay and mortification, that he is hardly a match for his adversary. Indeed, a perusal of the two instances of his conduct given by his adversary is sufficient to take the feather out of the cap of this model Anglo-Indian. Worst of all in the conflict, Mr. Phillips has now had recourse to the same expedient for covering his retreat which Sir William Draper made use of on a similar occasion. He is now posing as a friend of the people, saying that he has at heart the welfare of the people. He has also, in the very act of writing in the *Englishman* newspaper, expressed the regret that Government does not permit its officials to write in the public prints! He has called the writers in the native press liars. But can he say where the writers in that press have made any false statement regarding him? It is now the fashion to abuse the educated natives and the writers in the native press, and he is not a *pucca* Anglo-Indian who does not indulge in such abuse. Mr. Phillips is thus a *pucca* Anglo-Indian. But surely one has more important duties to perform than arguing with these men. An adversary like Mr. Phillips, who alternately raises his stick to strike, and says, with folded hands "I am your friend, forgive me," is not a fit person to argue with. The people ought to forget him, and the Government of India ought to take steps to make the country and the people forget him.

SAHACHAR,
May 29th, 1889.

SANTI,
May 29th, 1889.

51. The *Santi*, of the 29th May, says that cholera prevails at Chandipore in Tipperah. Three or four men are dying of the disease every day. The village is full of filth and stench. No water is to be had in the village. The only river in the village is almost silted up. The tanks are mere holes with dark foul water and teeming with insects. Cholera makes its appearance in the village every year in *Baisakh*, and no wonder that it should prevail in such a village. It is hoped that the Sanitary Committee will try its best to improve the health of the village.

SAMAYA,
May 31st, 1889.

52. The *Samaya*, of the 31st May, refers to the evictions on Lord Lansdowne's estate, and asks, do not these evictions show to some extent the kind of man Lord Lansdowne is? Lord Ripon gave relief to his tenants by remitting the rent due from them, and Lord Lansdowne is evicting his tenants for non-payment of rent. This difference in the treatment of their tenants will show clearly the difference between the two men. It is now the earnest wish of the writer that Lord Lansdowne may not prove a *harsh* ruler of the people of India.

SULABH SAMACHAR-
O-KUSHDAHA,
May 31st, 1889.

53. The *Sulabh Samachar-o-Kushdaha*, of the 31st May, referring to the interpellations in Parliament on the subject of early marriage, remarks that social reform, like the abolition of early marriage and the introduction of widow marriage by means of legislation, is not only opposed to the Queen's Proclamation, but also impracticable. Such reform will come of itself with the spread of education in the country.

PRAJA BANDHU,
May 31st, 1889.

54. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 31st May, is extremely sorry to see that the condition of Bengal is becoming worse every day. When Sir Rivers Thompson left India, it was hoped that the condition of Bengal would improve under the rule of Sir Stuart Bayley. And the first acts of Sir Stuart gave rise to expectations regarding a better state of things. But all those hopes have now given way to despair. Famine, scarcity of water, and cases of theft and dacoity are occurring everywhere, and taxes are being collected by oppressing the people. Bengal is inhabited chiefly by middle class people with small incomes, and Government's oppression of these men has been so severe, that many of them have formed the resolution of migrating to other countries. Some respectable people of Calcutta are seeking land for habitation within the French territories in India.

Does all this add to the reputation and good name of the British Government? The people of Calcutta are already paying a variety of taxes. Most of them are middle class people with small incomes. And in these days of high prices they cannot be asked to pay more without subjecting themselves to extreme distress. But Government is always crying, "give, give," and sucking the substance out of its people.

In this hard time a new road through the middle of Calcutta, from the Howrah Bridge to the Sealdah station, is about to be constructed. But where is the necessity for this road, which will cost lakhs of rupees? Does not the construction of the road at this time mean that Government intends to add to its reputation as an oppressor of the people? It would have been better if the money which will be spent in constructing the road had been spent in relieving the distress of the people.

BANGABASI,
June 1st, 1889.

55. The *Bangabasi*, of the 1st June, says that it would have been well if Kumar Kshitish Chandra Raya, of the Krishnagore Raj family, who has recently attained majority, had been made a Maharajah on the occasion of the distribution of the birthday honours.

56. The same paper says that it would be a mistake to suppose that the victory of Mr. Samuel Smith in Parliament, in the division on his motion condemning the excise policy of the Government of India, means that that policy is considered to be a bad policy. No such thing. The victory was the result of party exigencies. Mr. Caine, who supported Mr. Samuel Smith, is an influential Liberal Unionist, and the members of his party and also a few Conservatives supported him lest he should secede from the party. The members of Parliament have greater regard for party exigencies than for justice. The natives of India should bear this in mind.

The meaning of the condemnation of the Indian excise policy in Parliament.

BANGABASI,
June 1st, 1889.

57. The *Sanjivani*, of the 1st June, says that so long as the Indian wheat market is regulated by the average price fixed by the Corn Trades Association, the cultivation of Indian wheat will not improve; for no one will care to produce good wheat if he cannot get a proper price for it. This system of fixing an average price for wheat should therefore be abolished. The Secretary of State is willing to remedy the evil, but he can do nothing unless the Government of India and the Provincial Governments take the initiative in the matter. It is hoped that the Government of India will try its best to abolish the system.

The Indian wheat trade.

SANJIVANI,
June 1st, 1889.

58. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 2nd June, had hoped that as Sir Steuart Bayley is a sympathetic ruler and his Chief Secretary is a man of a wide heart, and as Mr. Worsley, Commissioner of the Dacca Division, is reputed to have a good heart, and his Personal Assistant, Baboo Akshaya Kumar Sen, is an efficient officer, steps would be taken to provide for the medical treatment of the men who were wounded in the recent tornado in Tangail. And it is disappointed to find that no such steps have yet been taken.

The tornado in Tangail.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 2nd, 1889.

59. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 3rd June, says that a large number of persons have died and received injuries in the late tornado in Tangail. Many houses have also been levelled to the ground. Government should afford relief

The tornado in Tangail.

DACCA GAZETTE,
June 3rd, 1889.

60. The *Santi*, of the 5th June, says that some other person than Mr. Barrow, the Magistrate of Jessore, should be entrusted with the enquiry into the truth of the allegations made against Mr. Silby, the Manager of the Nabatta Indigo Factory, in a petition submitted by the ryots of Nahatta to the Lieutenant-Governor. Messrs. Barrow and Silby are under mutual obligations for various reasons. A short time ago, Mr. William Savi, a subordinate of Mr. Silby, whipped a man and set his dog upon him. A case was brought against him for this, but the matter was compounded. So far as the writer knows of Mr. Silby, he is not a man who should be praised. The editor has sent a correspondent to Nahatta, who will secretly watch the proceedings of the indigo-planters.

Mr. Silby of the Nahatta Indigo Factory.

SANTI,
June 5th, 1889.

URIYA PAPERS.

61. Want of water, especially drinkable water, and scarcity are the two most important subjects that engage the attention of the native papers of the week ending 23rd May 1889. The *Samvad Bahika*, of the 16th May, writes as follows:—

Want of food and water in Orissa.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
May 16th, 1889.

"Want of water is felt more and more day after day. Many villagers do not find water whereby to cleanse their bodies and clothes. In certain villages marriages have been postponed for want of water. The washermen and the potters are unable to attend to their respective trades for want of water. The cultivators are in a worse plight. Cattle are watered in distant villages."

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 15th, 1889.

62. The Khordah correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvād*, of the 15th May, reports that many villagers in that khas mehal have undergone great privations for want of drinkable water.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
May 16th, 1889.

63. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 16th May, speaks in approving terms of the labours of the Sub-divisional Officer of Bhuddruck, who has sunk and excavated a certain number of wells and tanks, for the benefit of the people residing in the interior of that sub-division, with money raised by public subscription.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.

64. The same paper warns the Government that there is terrible scarcity in Bhograi, situated in the northern part of Balasore, and unless prompt measures of relief are adopted, its worse effects may be discernible within the next three months.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 15th, 1889.

65. The Khordah correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvād*, of the 15th May, writes as follows in connection with the present state of scarcity in that place:—

“The want of food is so great that if a man dies his relatives and friends cannot properly manage the funeral ceremonies incident thereto. Many have deserted their homes. Others have turned into roving beggars, praying for rice, with an earthen pot in hand, at every door.”

UTKAL DĪPIKA,
May 18th, 1889.

66. The *Utkal Dīpikā*, of the 18th May, thus describes the present state of scarcity in Angul, an important Tributary State belonging to Government, the particulars given having been obtained from an esteemed friend:—

“The famished people of Angul have entirely consumed the fruits and the roots of the forest. They are now subsisting on the leaves of banian trees. The lower orders of men sometimes live on cattle.

* * * * *

Scarcity and excessive heat, combined with other causes, have brought about cholera, which is raging virulently. Some of the villages have been nearly depopulated. Out of 60 prisoners in the Angul Jail, ten have died of that fell disease. Judging from the proceedings of the lower orders, it may be surmised that necessity may compel them in the fulness of time to live on human flesh. The price of saleable rice has been eight seers per rupee, but the most unfortunate circumstance is that no rice is procurable for sale at that rate.” We therefore beseech Government to save Angul in time.

UTKAL DĪPIKA.

67. The Pooree correspondent of the same paper reports that the number of houseless beggars praying for food in that town may be estimated at one thousand.

DĪPAKA
May 11th, 1889.

68. The *Dīpaka*, of the 11th May, a new weekly journal published by the Victoria Press in Cuttack, estimates the number of roving and emaciated beggars in that town at not less than five or six hundred, and exhorts the gentry and nobility of the station to open a relief centre to meet their wants.

DĪPAKA.

69. The same paper learns that scarcity of food in Naiyagurh, a Tributary State of Orissa, has compelled a large number of its inhabitants to live on “Sarapa,” a preparation from a tree of that name.

UTKALDIPKA,
May 18th, 1889.

70. The *Utkal Dipikā*, of the 18th May, in its article on the Orissa Coast Canal, goes on observing (see Weekly Report on Native Papers for week ending the 25th May 1889, paragraph 56), that besides the halts at Nalkali and Gaokhali, there are other vexatious halts of from two to six hours at *Burabalanga*, *Subarnarekha*, *Kalinagar*, and *Haldi*. Though these halts are necessitated by the want of sufficient water in the canal during ebb-tide the difficulty may be got over by locking up tidal water in certain tanks or other contrivances constructed for the purpose near the canal and by drawing-upon this reserve store in cases of need, or by a constant process of dredging with a view of removing silt as it is formed. But whatever the objections that may be raised against these proposals, it is clear that the halts at Nalkali and Gaokhali may be avoided by giving up the practice of transshipment at those stations and by doing away with the intermediate trips to the Balasore station.

The Subordinate Executive Service
Resolution.

71. Referring to the Resolution of Government on the "Scheme for recruiting the Subordinate Executive Service," the same paper makes the following observations:—

UTKAL DIPKA.

"In our opinion Sir Stuart Bayley has arrived at a satisfactory solution of a very difficult problem. The principle of competition conjoined with that of nomination will no doubt satisfy everybody. The system of requiring nominated candidates to pass an examination is also good. We are happy to find that the prospects of the Uriyas have been to a great extent thereby bettered."

The Subordinate Executive Service
Resolution.

72. The *Dipaka*, of the 18th May, however, takes a different view, and makes the following remarks:—

DIPKA.

"The nomination system may prove a blessing in some few cases, but generally, ten to one, aristocratic noodles will only benefit by this system."

ASSAM PAPERS.

The last examinations of the Calcutta
University.

73. The *Paridarshak*, of the 27th May, says that with a view of making a display of its activity, the Calcutta University first changed the time for its examinations from December to April. It has now come to see that April is not a good time for the examinations, and so it has now come to February, and it will probably come to January next year. Since the change in the time of holding the examinations was made, the University session is commencing at the latter end of June. But as fees and applications have to be sent to the Registrar one-and-a-half months before the examinations, the test examination has to be held in the mofussil two-and-a-half months before the examination, and actual teaching in the class has therefore to be stopped at the latter end of November. So the students are taught for only five months, that is, from July to November, and, deducting the holidays, the period of actual teaching does not amount to more than three months. This is a very lamentable state of things.

PARIDARSHAK,
May 27th, 1889.

The Entrance, F.A. and B.A. Examinations commenced on the 11th February, but the results were published in May. Who is to be held responsible for this delay, which has caused much injury to many persons? The students idle away the whole time preceding the publication of the results, and this is very injurious to them. There is no reasonable excuse for so much delay in the publication of the results. If the number of candidates has increased, the number of examiners also has increased. There is therefore no reason why the results should not be published after one month from the examination, as before.

In 1887 more than 68 per cent. of the Entrance candidates passed, in 1888 nearly 31 per cent. passed, and this year less than 22 per cent. have passed. It is impossible to explain such fluctuations in the percentage of successful candidates except on the supposition of capriciousness on the part of the examiners. It cannot well be that the candidates are well taught one year, and ill-taught another year, and that the candidates of one year are clever, and those of another year are stupid. More than 5,000 candidates have been plucked in the Entrance Examination alone. Supposing the cost of educating each of them to amount on an average to 200 rupees a year, the cost of educating these 5,000 and odd candidates will amount to more than 10 lakhs of rupees. Who but the University is responsible for the pecuniary loss of the guardians of the plucked candidates?

As the Entrance Examination is the gate to the higher examinations, it should not be made so strict. It is true that those who have not made themselves fit for receiving high education should not be passed. But few such candidates are sent up by the schools to the Entrance Examination. Many of the plucked candidates pass in the first division next year, and more than 22 per cent. of them will pass. That this usually happens is not unknown to the University itself. And this cannot be explained except on the supposition that the examiners do their work capriciously.

If the number of candidates is considered too large, different Provincial Universities may be established.

In England an examiner cannot pluck a candidate without taking the opinion of the Assessors. Cannot this system be adopted in the Calcutta University?

It is strange that not more than 10 per cent. of the candidates sent from the Calcutta schools have been successful. And this is all the more strange because the mofussil students really learn nothing, but only get up their lessons by rote.

PARIDARSHAK,
May 27th, 1889.

74. The *Paridarsak*, of the 27th May, says that Baboo Isan Chandra Patranavis, Extra Assistant Commissioner of North Sylhet, shows an undue leaning towards the police in cases sent up by it.

In such cases he thinks it to be his duty, as a superior officer of the police, to direct it to produce more evidence where the evidence produced is not sufficient. It is not easy to see upon what principle this course can be justified.

Isan Baboo acts the part of the Crown Prosecutor in such cases. In his opinion the police officers who come to conduct cases do not know how to conduct them, and he therefore thinks it to be his duty to supply any defects in the evidence. In discharging this function, he even puts his own interpretations on police reports. What his decisions, under these circumstances, must be, can easily be imagined.

In recording evidence on behalf of the State, Isan Baboo does not record whatever a witness says, but obtains from him the answer which will suit his own purpose, by brow-beating him and by means of further interrogatories. If this is objected to, he says that the evidence must "be a narrative," and often gets angry. He once went so far as to say *Chup kara* (silence!) to a pleader who had protested against such conduct on his part. Pleadors who once come to Isan Baboo's Court do not wish to come there again.

He always complains of heavy work. If a pleader makes a long cross-examination, he says, "Do you want to make me work till dusk?" His aversion to work is probably due to age.

The following cases are given to illustrate the spirit in which the Baboo tries cases sent up by the police:—

Mr. Ritchie, the Police Superintendent, recently instituted a case against the coachman of Baboo Navakrishna Raya Dastidar, for keeping the

the Baboo's carriage standing on a road. The Baboo engaged a pleader and the moment the pleader made his appearance, Isan Baboo exclaimed, "Will you stop the course of the law?" In another case security was demanded from Baboo Piyarimohan De, son of Baboo Dinanath De, although his father is still alive and although he is still prosecuting his studies. The evidence at first produced by the police in that case not being satisfactory, Isan Baboo, as a superior police officer, directed the police to produce two more witnesses.

75. The same paper says that on account of the absence of drains

The river-side street in Sylhet town.

the water of the street in Sylhet town on the river-side falls into the river, and the side of

the street next to the river is being therefore damaged. A small expenditure of money will be required to set this right. But if the street continues to be damaged in this way, it will become necessary to acquire new land for it. It is strange that the municipality does not turn its attention to the matter.

76. A correspondent of the same paper says that in Shillong the practice of introducing one's own men into the public offices is very prevalent. The Chief

Nepotism in the Shillong offices.

Commissioner should look to the matter.

PARIDARSHAK,
May 27th, 1889.

PARIDARSHAK.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 8th June 1889.

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor discoloration and small dark spots, possibly due to age or handling. A dark, curved binding edge is visible on the right side of the page.